

A REVIEW OF THE STATE OF THE BRITISH NATION.

Thursday, December 30. 1708.

IN the Review, N^o 116, I explain'd the Vanity of the *Rehearsal* in his Flourish of suffering Martyrdom, for a Thing which no Body denies, and which really has nothing in it; but because this Bluster of Mr. *Rehearsal* has something in it, that every Body does not understand, and is a Fore-runner of a very pretty *Jacobite* Project, which perhaps few People foresee; I must enter a little into some of the *Arcana* of *Jacobitism*, I mean *Northerly* considerations, which I foresee are forming to be midwifed into the World, when

they are come a little nearer their Birth; I will not say, that even this great Prophet of the Party is privy to the Design, for you are to understand him but a Voluntier in this particular Case, and a Tool to be us'd, when officiously he offers his Service as there is Occasion—But this Plot is too deep to trust with Scoundrels, and he is none of the Privy Council of the Party, as I find by his Ignorance of several Circumstances among them, which he supplies by Forgeries and Flourishes of his own.

Had

Had he been of Council with the *Jacobite* Clergy of *Scotland*, he would never have brought in Mr. *Herriot's* Story, and plac'd him as a persecuted Minister, whose Character was either *too bad* to be call'd one of their Number, or *too bad* to be made publick; and if he had any Prudence or Regard for these Gentlemen, whose Characters to do them Justice are not like this *Herriot's*, I assure him, he would not have made it publick; but alas he is known too well to be trusted with Secrets, and making him the Tool, he only took the Part he knew, and so the Folly of exposing Mr. *Herriot* lies somewhere else.

Now we come to the Challenge about the Queen's making a Bishop; and here we must go back into an Affair that requires some History, which I suppose, Mr. *Rehearsal* knows not much of.

The *Episcopal Dissenters* in *Scotland* sometime ago finding, that since the Revolution their Case had lain a long while unretriev'd, *contrary to their Expectation*, and that Presbytery had then reign'd almost 15 Years, and which was still worse, that King *William* dying, the Usurpation; so they call the Settlement of the Succession, was reviv'd in the present QUEEN, and unhappily like to continue, and that the Number of their Bishops began to decline, being reduc'd by Mortality to about Six, I think, for I will not be positive in the Number; That however the Queen seem'd to show some Concern for them, and was willing in some Things to let that Concern

procure their Quiet, if they had understood it, but from which they presum'd more than ever was design'd; especially the *Non-Juring Part of them*. Upon these Views, I say, a Design was set on Foot to get a Licence or Authority from the Queen to the remaining Bishops of *Scotland*, to consecrate Nominal Bishops to the vacant Sees of *Scotland*, tho' without Stipends or Possession of the Churches or Cathedrals, &c. who being thus consecrated, might exercise their Diocesan Power, receive such a Ministerial Obedience, as would be voluntarily paid them by their own Party, and, which was the main End, should by this means maintain the Succession of Bishops, and consequently preserve the Episcopal Ordination of their Ministers, exactly as is the Case of the *Roman Catholick* Titular Bishops in *Ireland*, who are maintain'd to this Day, tho' the Subjection of that Kingdom to the Dominion of the Protestant English, is near 140 Years old.

I could enter a little farther into this History, and tell you how far it went, who prepar'd and drew up an Address to be presented to her Majesty, who in *England* prompted it, and who in *Scotland* contriv'd and encourag'd it, and wrote into the *North* to get Hands to it— But the Season for naming of great Names with a great L before them is not yet; Time may come, when I may speak plainer upon what is pass'd; in the mean while the World may remember, the *Rehearsal* began to make

make Way for this by his proposing in Print, to unite the Scots Bishops to the English—which was a second Thought upon the Failing of the former—But both fail'd; the first because they foresaw it could not be expected, the Queen would give Way to nominate *Non-Jurors* for Bishops, and they would not give Way to consecrate any other; the last fail'd from the very Absurdity of the Thing, I mean a Conjunction of Scots, *Non-Jurant* Bishops with the English Bishops, acknowledging and swearing to the Queen; each of which reciprocally accounted the other *Schismatical*. And this was the true Reason, why the *Rehearsal* would never give a fair Answer to that Question, what he meant by the Church of England, with whom these Scots Bishops should be joyn'd?

He durst not own he meant the *Non-Jurant* Bishops in England, whom alone they own to be the true Church of England—And to suggest they were the Conforming Bishops, whom they dam'd as *Schismatical*, was absurd, and so he run away from the Argument, and call'd another Cause.

Now to bring this all down to the present Case—The Archbishop of Glasgow, Dr. . . . is just now dead, and the Apprehensions of the expiring of a true Succession of Prelatical Authority in Scotland revives—Upon this a new Notion is started by the *Rehearsal*—That the Civil Authority cannot make a Bishop, That if the Queen and Parliament should destroy all the Bishops, and re-

quire them to live without them, they should not be obey'd—And what follows? *Rehearsal*, Dec. 18. No. 21. I would seek for Bishops where I could get them, &c.—And thus at last the Riddle is expounded—

The Case is plain, the Queen and Parliament has abolish'd *Episcopacy* in Scotland; but these People, says the *Rehearsal*, are not to obey her. There's admirable *Passive-Obedience* by the way; and what follows? But seek for Bishops where they can get them. The Meaning is this, that they will have Bishops without the Queen's Nomination—And now wait but a little, and let us see, whether they dare take a Nomination, or a *Conge d'Eslire* from the Pretender or no, for that is the English of it, for the filling up the vacant Bishopricks in Scotland.

Perhaps they may not run that Risque — The next Thing is then to do by the QUEEN, as some body else once did by the Bishops in England, viz. *Vote Hier Majesty useless in the Case*, Vote the Queen's Nomination of no Necessity, and so proceed as the Chapter of *Canterbury* did in England once without the Royal Authority, and Consecrate Bishops of their own Nomination.

And thus you have a Sketch of a Project, which is yet but an Embrio in the World, but in Time you may hear more of it; meanwhile, the little Beginnings of it shew themselves—There are indeed some Difficulties in the way, such as Contempt of the Laws, breaking

breaking in upon the Queen's Prerogative, deposing *the Regale* in the Protestant Church, and taking away the Supremacy of the Crown in Ecclesiastick Causes, and the like; but these are but small Matters, tho' they may perhaps come so near the Verge of Treason, as may make the People cautious how they adventure upon them.

But above all, I would humbly recommend it to the Parliament of *Britain*, to put a stop in the way of one Branch of the Design, and to declare it high Treason for any Persons to Consecrate any Bishop in the Isle of *Britain*, by the Nomination of the Pretender, or to receive any Writ or Authority from him, or in short, to Consecrate or be Consecrated by any other Authority, than that of Her Majesty.

Nor can the Episcopal Clergy in *Scotland*, think themselves oppress'd in this, since all of them that acknowledge the Government may receive Episcopal Ordination, in Case of Necessity from *English* Bishops, and the Oppression is not so great as to drive them to so open a Violation of their Allegiance, as to fly to the Pretender, and so solemnly recognize his Title to the Crown of *Britain*, as to accept of his Nomination to a vacant Bishoprick, which is in a manner putting him in the actual Exercise of the Government of *Britain*.

Time perhaps will make some farther Discovery of this Matter; till then, I only remind the Reader of the Project, that he may know the Story again when it comes to be put in Practice.

A D V E R T I S E M E N T.

These are to give Notice,

THAT MARY KIRLEUS, the Widow of JOHN KIRLEUS, Son of Dr. THOMAS KIRLEUS, a Sworn-Physician, in Ordinary to King CHARLES II. Sells (highly prepar'd) his Famous Drink and Pills; experienc'd above 50 Years (by an uncommon Method) to cure all Ulcers, Sores, Scabs, Itch, Scurf, Scurvies, Leprosies, Running of the Reins, and the most inveterate VENEREAL Disease, with all its attending Symptoms, without Fluxing, Confinement, or destructive Mercurial-Preparations: These incomparable Medicines need no Words to express their Virtues; the many miserable Ones that have been happily cured, after given over by others, sufficiently recommend them as the most Sovereign Remedy in the World against all such Malignities: She cures many after Fluxing, and in Compassion to the Distressed, will deal according to the Patient's Ability. The Drink is 3^o the Quart, the Pills 1 s. the Box with Directions, and Advice *Grati*. NOTE, The Patient may be effectually cur'd by sending their Grief in Writing,

* * * She lives at the Golden-Ball in Hand-Court, over against great Turnstile in Holborn.

